Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: You said that the cloth is to be confiscated after 31st December 1943.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I read a passage from Hindu of a meeting the purport of which is mentioned here as seizure of unstamped cloth and yarn lying with dealers and for the subsequent disposal of such confiscated goods. Confiscation has got its own meaning.

Demand put and carried

5. Rs. 177 under "32—Industries—Direction and Inspection—Furniture"

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Sir, I move for an additional allotment of Rs. 177-under "32—Industries—Direction and Inspection—Furniture". This is only to supply a few items of furniture to the Office of the Director of Industries consequent on the additional staff appointed in connection with the control of standard cloth.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: I second it.

Demand put and carried

6. Rs. 13,371 under "39—Miscellaneous—Excise—Price Control Measures"

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 13,371 under "39—Miscellaneous—Excise—Price Control Measures." This is to disburse the pay, travelling allowances, etc., to the additional staff appointed in the Excise Department to enforce the control orders and prevent smuggling of articles controlled by the Government.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Would the hon'ble member be pleased to explain the necessity for the additional Excise staff to prevent smuggling of rice and paddy when the whole stock of paddy is completely under the control of the Government?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: In 1118 nearly 474 cases of smuggling were detected and in 1119 up-to-date about 110 cases. This evidently shows that it is absolutely necessary to have a very effective and strong staff to prevent smuggling.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What is the nature of smuggling now? Every grain of rice is in Government's hands. There is no rice that could be sold by anybody. Therefore there is no possiblilty of any smuggling.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: Suppose the land lords who are in posession of paddy give a false statement and keep some paddy in hiding and manipulate and sent it to others and finally to the black market and they try to export from the State. Thus there is scope for smuggling.

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: There are several articles that should not be taken out without permits.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: May I know whether these hands are newly appointed in the Excise Department for this purpose.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Covernment)*: I shall furnish the details. 5 Sub-Inspectors.....

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: May I know whether they are newly appointed Officers in the Department.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Yes. After the Budget.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: May I further know whether there is any sanctity in having these officers appointed in the Excise Department in preference to the Food Control Department itself.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: There is already a preventive force attached to the Excise Department. It was thought more economical to increase the existing force.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Are the Government aware that the division of responsibility and differential authority with regard to its control has really worked havoc and hardship in the execution of these orders.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Government are not aware.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Is it not too late for the Government to realise at least now.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: There is no confusion.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: I will explain. I do not want to refer to instances which I know personally. But I recall the fact that Excise officers owing allegiance to the Exsise Commissioner, Revenue officers owing allegiance to the Diwan Peishkar, Food control officers owing allegiance to the Director of Food Supplies are conflicting and the result is that people suffer. That is a fact. There is no fiction in it.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: There is no such conflict.

Deputy President: Mr. Ezhuthassan, you can elicit the information required for the cut motion.

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